

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

- 1.-4. (Canceled).
5. (Currently amended) A data storage medium, comprising:
  - a sector, the sector including header data and sector data, and the header data including one or more control bits that determine whether the sector data is sent to a requestor regardless of the type of data stored in the sector;
  - the header data specifying ~~whether that the a~~ drive reading the data storage medium is permitted to send the sector data in an unencrypted form to **[[a]]** the requestor if the one or more control bits equal a first value.
- 6.-7. (Canceled).
8. (New) The data storage medium of claim 5, wherein the header data specifies that the drive is permitted to send the sector data in an unencrypted form if the one or more control bits equal a second value different from the first value, and if the requestor is authenticated.
9. (New) The data storage medium of claim 5, wherein the header data specifies that the drive is permitted to send the sector data in an encrypted form to the requestor if the one or more control bits equal a second value different from the first value.
10. (New) The data storage medium of claim 9, wherein the header data specifies that the drive is permitted to send the sector data in an encrypted form to

the requestor if the one or more control bits equal a third value different from both the first and second values, and if the requestor is authenticated.

11. (New) The data storage medium of claim 5, wherein the header data specifies that the drive is not permitted to send the sector data to the requestor if the one or more control bits equal a second value different from the first value.

12. (New) A method for reading data from a data storage medium, comprising:  
reading header data from the data storage medium;  
decoding one or more control bits within the header data, the one or more control bits controlling whether sector data is provided to a requestor regardless of the type of data stored in the sector; and  
providing sector data from the data storage medium to a requestor in unencrypted form if the one or more control bits equal a first value.

13. (New) The method of claim 12, further comprising providing the sector data to the requestor in unencrypted form if the one or more control bits equal a second value different from the first value, and if the requestor is authenticated.

14. (New) The method of claim 12, further comprising providing the sector data to the requestor in encrypted form if the one or more control bits equal a second value different from the first value.

15. (New) The method of claim 14, further comprising providing the sector data to the requestor in encrypted form if the one or more control bits equal a third value different from both the first and second values, and if the requestor is authenticated.

16. (New) The method of claim 12, further comprising not providing the sector data to the requestor if the one or more control bits equal a second value different from the first value.